



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

14 April 1999

Mr. David Luther
Southern Sonoma County RCD
1301 Redwood Way, Suite 170
Petaluma, CA 94952

Subject: Sonoma Creek Conservancy (SCC) Proposal to CALFED

Dear Mr. Luther:

This letter is in support of a proposal by the SCC to the CALFED Bay-Delta program for funding of restoration-related activities in the Sonoma Creek watershed. As you are aware, since the early 1980's I have been involved in the assessment of the ecological health of stream fish and riparian communities with the San Francisco Estuary. The Sonoma Creek watershed supports several priority aquatic species as identified by CALFED including steelhead trout, California red-legged frog, and the California freshwater shrimp. In addition, the Sonoma Creek-Napa River marsh complex is utilized by delta smelt, splittail, longfin smelt, chinook salmon, clapper rail, and salt marsh harvest mouse.

Historically, Sonoma Creek and its tributaries were known internationally as a premier steelhead stream. It is likely that Sonoma Creek historically supported a larger run of steelhead than the Napa River (estimated at 6,000 adults). Sonoma Creek currently supports a run of steelhead of unknown size. Recent surveys conducted by EPA have confirmed that the Sonoma Creek watershed contains significant amounts of good to high quality steelhead spawning and rearing habitat. Furthermore, the potential to successfully restore degraded steelhead spawning and rearing habitat on Sonoma Creek and its tributaries through the implementation of various remediation and management programs is high. In addition to steelhead, the following native species occur within the Sonoma Creek watershed: Pacific lamprey; resident rainbow trout; California roach; Sacramento squawfish; Sacramento sucker; prickly sculpin; riffle sculpin; and tule perch. The intact nature of native fish assemblages within the Sonoma Creek watershed is unusual and is comparable to the best remaining streams within the Central Valley in terms of the number of native fish species.

Considered together, Sonoma Creek, and the Napa and Petaluma Rivers, as well as other North Bay streams, and their associated wetlands, have the potential to play a critical role in CALFED's efforts to recover priority species and their habitats. For example, it is not unreasonable to project that with focused efforts directed at habitat restoration and management steelhead populations in the North Bay could be restored to between 3,000 and 5,000 adults (note: the Napa River historically supported 6,000 adults alone). Estimates of the average annual steelhead run size for the Sacramento-San Joaquin River system, including San Francisco Bay tributaries, range between 10,000-40,00 adults (Hallock et al. 1961, McEwan and Jackson 1996). This implies that under a reasonable "restoration" scenario, assuming that currently there are on average 30,000 adults in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River system, North Bay streams could potentially contribute to anywhere between 10% and 16% of the current total number of adult steelhead.

There are several other reasons why the North Bay could play a pivotal role in the restoration of CALFED priority species and habitats:

There are several other reasons why the North Bay could play a pivotal role in the restoration of priority species and habitats:

(1) From a zoogeographic and ecological perspective North Bay aquatic and wetland habitats are part of the Central Valley Fish Province. As such, the fish fauna is characteristic of the Central Valley, except that it is more diverse in terms of the number of fish species, largely due to a greater diversity of aquatic and wetland habitats. Populations of certain priority fish species (*i.e.*, splittail, delta smelt, steelhead, longfin smelt, chinook salmon, and striped bass) may or may not be isolated on a regular basis from conspecifics within other geographic areas such as the delta, Suisun marsh, or the Sacramento-San Joaquin Rivers and their tributaries (the amount and regularity of interchange among species between various geographic regions is unclear), however they do represent important "populations" from the perspective of developing an effective conservation strategy to recover declining species. Every ecologist knows that it is better not to put "all your eggs in one basket". Rather, it makes more sense to establish multiple "populations" to insure against unforeseen population declines.

(2) The North Bay habitats, particularly Sonoma Creek, the Napa River, and the Petaluma marsh complex form a contiguous area with high restoration potential for priority species and their habitats. The North Bay marsh complex is both physically and ecologically linked. Therefore, restoration efforts targeted within this geographic area have the potential to result in landscape level benefits to the overall ecosystem health.

(3) Unlike Central Valley drainages, most North Bay streams are characterized by a "natural" hydrograph. With the exception of the Napa River and Novato Creek, there are no large reservoirs that store or divert flows and modify natural flow patterns. Of particular note, is the lack of large reservoirs on Sonoma Creek. Existing water diversions tend to be small, although there may be adverse localized impacts on some tributary streams. Natural flow regimes are critical to the maintenance and restoration of priority species, such as steelhead, and their associated habitats. Even on the Napa River current flow patterns closely mimic historic patterns.

(4) The close geographic proximity of North Bay drainages to each other and to the bay and ocean, facilitates the movement of fish species to meet their life history requirements. For example, distances for spawning and out migration of anadromous species for North bay streams is relatively short (25-50 miles) compared to anadromous fishes in Central Valley streams that may have to migrate 100-250 miles during up- and downstream migrations. The geographic location of North Bay habitats may improve spawning success and survivorship.

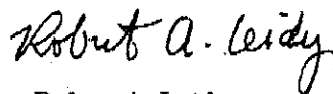
(5) Restoration and management of North Bay priority habitats on a whole benefits a greater number of priority and other fish species because of the geographic location and diversity of habitat types. For example, restoration of North Bay tidal wetlands has the potential to benefit entire assemblages of fishes (*e.g.*, splittail, longfin smelt, delta smelt, steelhead, chinook salmon, striped bass) as part of a single project.

(6) There are large areas of potential restoration areas within the North Bay and the institutional mechanisms to implement restoration are largely in place. The SEC is an excellent example of a local institution well-positioned to effectively oversee restoration activities within the Sonoma Creek watershed.

I believe that the SEC's proposal for habitat restoration combined with workshops to educate, assist and engage the community at the local level is worthy of funding. Thank you for the

opportunity to comment on this proposal. You may contact me at (415) 744-1970 if you would like to discuss my comments further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert A. Leidy". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Robert A. Leidy
Wetland Science Program Manager

APR-14-1999 WED 09:50 AM REP LYNN WOOLSEY

LYNN WOOLSEY
6TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEES:

BUDGET

EDUCATION AND THE
WORKFORCE

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

439 CANNON BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0506
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-5161**Congress of the United States**
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0506DISTRICT OFFICES:
1101 COLLEGE AVE., SUITE 200
SANTA ROSA, CA 95401
TELEPHONE: (707) 542-7162
NORTHGATE BUILDING
1080 NORTHGATE DRIVE, SUITE 140
SAN RAFAEL, CA 94003
TELEPHONE: (415) 507-0654
E-MAIL ADDRESS:
lynn.woolsey@mail.house.gov
WEB PAGE ADDRESS:
<http://www.house.gov/woolsey/>

April 12, 1999

CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

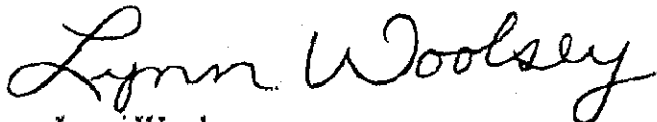
Dear CALFED Technical Review Panel:

I am writing to express my support for the Southern Sonoma County Resource Conservation District's (SSCRCD) proposal for funding from the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. SSCRCDD has been working effectively in the Sonoma Creek Watershed since 1994, bringing residents together to complete a community-based watershed plan and implement vineyard demonstration projects to reduce sedimentation and improve wildlife habitat.

As I understand, funding from CALFED will allow SSCRCDD to implement recommendations of the Watershed Planning Project for Sonoma Creek, which will protect the creek's sustainable steelhead run and its threatened and endangered species. Their efforts could serve as a model for a grass-roots action to improve watershed resources. This important undertaking already includes vital voluntary participation by the local agricultural community.

Thank you for your careful consideration of SSCRCDD's application for funding. It is my sincere hope that SSCRCDD will receive the funding it needs to continue and expand its environmental preservation efforts for the Sonoma Creek watershed.

Sincerely,

Lynn Woolsey
Member of Congress

LW:tf



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

San Francisco Bay Region



Gray Davis
Governor

Winston H. Hickox
Secretary for
Environmental
Protection

Internet Address: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov>
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400, Oakland, California 94612
Phone (510) 622-2300 - FAX (510) 622-2460

CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

April 12, 1999

Dear CALFED Technical Review Panel:

I am writing to express my support for the Southern Sonoma County Resource Conservation District's (SSCRCD) proposal for funding from the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. SSCRCDD has a long history of working with landowners and residents to both improve agricultural operations and protect the environment.

The Sonoma Creek Watershed Restoration Program promises to have many benefits. The watershed contains many species of concern such as the threatened steelhead trout which will benefit from the habitat enhancements envisioned in this project. The watershed has also experienced serious erosion which will be addressed to benefit water quality.

Please know that I am extremely supportive of collaborative, coordinated approaches to watershed restoration, knowing that they are the only way we can achieve positive results with private property owners and ensure that public agencies do not engage in contradictory permitting and regulatory actions. Additionally, the shared resources of public agencies, private groups and local schools ensure that watershed enhancement and public education is effectively implemented.

Thank you for your careful consideration of SSCRCDD's application for funding. It is my sincere hope that your funding will allow SSCRCDD to go forward to do this much needed work in the Sonoma Creek Watershed.

Sincerely yours,

Bill Hurley
Associate Water Resources Control Engineer
Regional Water Quality Control Board

California Environmental Protection Agency

Recycled Paper



BUDGET INFORMATION - Non-Construction Programs**SECTION A BUDGET SUMMARY**

Grant Program Function or Activity (a)	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number (b)	Estimated Unobligated Funds		New or Revised Budget		
		Federal (c)	Non-Federal (d)	Federal (e)	Non-Federal (f)	Total (g)
1. Habitat Restoration		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 702,633
2.						
3.						
4.						
5. Totals		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

SECTION B BUDGET CATEGORIES

6. Object Class Categories	GRANT PROGRAM, FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY				Total (5)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	
a. Personnel	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 401,830
b. Fringe Benefits					
c. Travel					
d. Equipment					189,600
e. Supplies					20,700
f. Contractual					
g. Construction					6,450
h. Other					
i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 6a-6h)					
j. Indirect Charges					84,053
k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 702,633
7. Program Income	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

SECTION C: NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES				
(a) Grant Program	(b) Applicant	(c) State	(d) Other Sources	(e) TOTALS
8. WATERSHED CONSERVANCY	\$ 10,000	\$	\$ 133,040	\$ 143,040
9.				
10.				
11.				
12. TOTAL (sum of lines 8 - 11)	\$	\$	\$	\$ 143,040

SECTION D: FORECASTED CASH NEEDS					
	Total for 1st Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
13. Federal	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
14. NonFederal					
15. TOTAL (sum of lines 13 and 14)	483,923	109,731	109,730	109,731	109,730

SECTION E: BUDGET ESTIMATES OF FEDERAL FUNDS NEEDED FOR BALANCE OF THE PROJECT				
(a) Grant Program	FUTURE FUNDING PERIODS (Years)			
	(b) First	(c) Second	(d) Third	(e) Fourth
16. WATERSHED CONSERVANCY	\$ 131,855	\$ 131,855	\$	\$
17.				
18.				
19.				
20. TOTAL (sum of lines 16-19)	\$ 131,855	\$ 131,855	\$	\$ 263,710

SECTION F: OTHER BUDGET INFORMATION	
21. Direct Charges:	22. Indirect Charges:
23. Remarks:	

APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

OMB Approval No. 0348-0043


TYPE OF SUBMISSION: Application <input type="checkbox"/> Construction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Construction Preapplication <input type="checkbox"/> Construction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Construction		2. DATE SUBMITTED 4-15-99	Applicant Identifier
		3. DATE RECEIVED BY STATE	State Application Identifier
		4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY	Federal Identifier

APPLICANT INFORMATION Legal Name: southern sonoma county resource conservation dist.		Organizational Unit: Substate, Special Purpose District
Address (give city, county, State, and zip code): 1301 Redwood Way, Suite 170 Petaluma, CA 94954		Name and telephone number of person to be contacted on matters involving this application (give area code): David Luther (707) 794-1242

EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN): 94-2785937	7. TYPE OF APPLICANT: (enter appropriate letter in box) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> G A. State B. County C. Municipal D. Township E. Interstate F. Intermunicipal G. Special District H. Independent School Dist. I. State Controlled Institution of Higher Learning J. Private University K. Indian Tribe L. Individual M. Profit Organization N. Other (Specify) _____
TYPE OF APPLICATION: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Revision Revision, enter appropriate letter(s) in box(es) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> A. Increase Award B. Decrease Award C. Increase Duration D. Decrease Duration Other(specify): _____	

CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER: 66-606 TITLE: AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (Cities, Counties, States, etc.): Sonoma County, California	9. NAME OF FEDERAL AGENCY: 11. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT: Sonoma Creek Watershed Conservancy
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PROPOSED PROJECT Start Date: 10-99 Ending Date: 10-02 ESTIMATED FUNDING: <table border="1"> <tr><td>Federal</td><td>\$</td><td>702,633.00</td><td>00</td></tr> <tr><td>Applicant</td><td>\$</td><td></td><td>00</td></tr> <tr><td>State</td><td>\$</td><td></td><td>00</td></tr> <tr><td>Local</td><td>\$</td><td></td><td>00</td></tr> <tr><td>Other</td><td>\$</td><td></td><td>00</td></tr> <tr><td>Program Income</td><td>\$</td><td></td><td>00</td></tr> <tr><td>TOTAL</td><td>\$</td><td>702,633.00</td><td>00</td></tr> </table>	Federal	\$	702,633.00	00	Applicant	\$		00	State	\$		00	Local	\$		00	Other	\$		00	Program Income	\$		00	TOTAL	\$	702,633.00	00	14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF: 06 a. Applicant: SSCRC b. Project: 16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS? a. YES. THIS PREAPPLICATION/APPLICATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS FOR REVIEW ON: DATE _____ b. No. <input type="checkbox"/> PROGRAM IS NOT COVERED BY E. O. 12372 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OR PROGRAM HAS NOT BEEN SELECTED BY STATE FOR REVIEW 17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If "Yes," attach an explanation. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Federal	\$	702,633.00	00																										
Applicant	\$		00																										
State	\$		00																										
Local	\$		00																										
Other	\$		00																										
Program Income	\$		00																										
TOTAL	\$	702,633.00	00																										

TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION/PREAPPLICATION ARE TRUE AND CORRECT, THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICANT WILL COMPLY WITH THE ATTACHED ASSURANCES IF THE ASSISTANCE IS AWARDED.		
Name of Authorized Representative David Luther	b. Title Resource Conservationist	c. Telephone Number (707) 794-1242x3
Signature of Authorized Representative 		e. Date Signed 4-15-99

**STANDARD CLAUSES --
SMALL BUSINESS PREFERENCE AND CONTRACTOR IDENTIFICATION NUMBER**

NOTICE TO ALL BIDDERS:

Section 14835, et. seq. of the California Government Code requires that a five percent preference be given to bidders who qualify as a small business. The rules and regulations of this law, including the definition of a small business for the delivery of service, are contained in Title 2, California Code of Regulations, Section 1896, et. seq. A copy of the regulations is available upon request. Questions regarding the preference approval process should be directed to the Office of Small and Minority Business at (916) 322-5060. To claim the small business preference, you must submit a copy of your certification approval letter with your bid.

Are you claiming preference as a small business?

_____ Yes* X No

*Attach a copy of your certification approval letter.

NONDISCRIMINATION COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

STD. 19 (REV. 3-95) FMC

COMPANY NAME

SOUTHERN SONOMA COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The company named above (hereinafter referred to as "prospective contractor") hereby certifies, unless specifically exempted, compliance with Government Code Section 12990 (a-f) and California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Division 4, Chapter 5 in matters relating to reporting requirements and the development, implementation and maintenance of a Nondiscrimination Program. Prospective contractor agrees not to unlawfully discriminate, harass or allow harassment against any employee or applicant for employment because of sex, race, color, ancestry, religious creed, national origin, disability (including HIV and AIDS), medical condition (cancer), age, marital status, denial of family and medical care leave and denial of pregnancy disability leave.

CERTIFICATION

I, the official named below, hereby swear that I am duly authorized to legally bind the prospective contractor to the above described certification. I am fully aware that this certification, executed on the date and in the county below, is made under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California.

OFFICIAL'S NAME

David Luther

DATE EXECUTED

4-15-99

EXECUTED IN THE COUNTY OF

Sonoma

PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR'S SIGNATURE

David Luther

PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR'S TITLE

Resource Conservationist

PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR'S LEGAL BUSINESS NAME

Southern Sonoma County Resource Conservation District

3. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333), regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).
14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. §§2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL

TITLE

D. L. Luth

Resource Conservationist

APPLICANT ORGANIZATION

DATE SUBMITTED

Southern Sonoma County Resource Conservation District

4-15-99